



## CATAWBA COUNTY

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### EMS EMPLOYEES HONORED WITH DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

Each year, Catawba County Emergency Medical Service recognizes employees who have gone above their normal duties and made significant contributions to the service with Distinguished Service Awards. Five employees were recently chosen to receive this honor.

Shift Supervisor Kevin Reese was honored for his work on a class action lawsuit in which the service was involved. Preparing to submit the required paperwork for consideration encompassed hours of research, compilation and careful execution.



EMT-Paramedic Jennifer Rice was honored for assisting with the preparation of materials for the class action lawsuit, for serving as Public Information Officer for Emergency Services, and for working to update and redesign the EMS website.

Mark Sigmon, another Shift Supervisor, worked diligently to apply for a computer grant for EMS. Thanks to his efforts, EMS received the grant, which will provide tablet computers for each Catawba County EMS ambulance. These tablets will help staff complete required paperwork in a more efficient and timely manner and allow them to obtain signatures electronically, thus resulting in time savings and less waste.



Two employees combined talents to create a program to assist fellow employees or their families in times of need. EMT-Paramedics Elayne Sinclair and Greg Johnson were honored for their



work to develop and coordinate the EMS Hardship Fund, which provides emergency assistance to EMS personnel who work for Catawba County during times of personal difficulty, such as a long-term illness or death in the immediate family. The Fund provides financial assistance when needed and also



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keeps a data base of personnel willing to offer practical help such as mowing the lawn, preparing food, providing respite care, or any other assistance an employee may need.

“Catawba County EMS is fortunate to have caring and dedicated employees, committed to providing excellent medical care to the citizens of Catawba County and to taking care of each other during difficult situations,” said Bryan Blanton, Catawba County Emergency Services Director.